

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/GB 03/03496

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
IPC 7 A61B17/17 A61B17/15

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 4 952 213 A (BOWMAN JERALD A ET AL) 28 August 1990 (1990-08-28) column 7, line 41 -column 8, line 33; figure 1	1-7
A	---	15
X	US 5 681 316 A (DEORIO JAMES K ET AL) 28 October 1997 (1997-10-28) claim 1; figures 1-4	1-7
A	---	15
X	US 5 342 368 A (PETERSEN THOMAS D) 30 August 1994 (1994-08-30) claim 1; figures 1,2	1-6
A	---	15
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☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents:

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- \*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

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- \*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- \* & \* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

13 November 2003

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26/11/2003

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 833 693 A (ABRAHAMI ISRAEL) 10 November 1998 (1998-11-10) the whole document	1-5,7,8, 10
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A	US 5 749 876 A (GINESTON JEAN-MARIE ET AL) 12 May 1998 (1998-05-12) abstract; figure 2 -----	1,15

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Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 4952213	A	28-08-1990	NONE	
US 5681316	A	28-10-1997	NONE	
US 5342368	A	30-08-1994	NONE	
US 5833693	A	10-11-1998	NONE	
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			DE 69517296 D1	06-07-2000
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			ES 2149999 T3	16-11-2000
			WO 9601588 A1	25-01-1996